

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 055958

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, YO, US

SUBJECT: THE SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH BELOVSKI

REF: STATE 52571

1. SUMMARY. THE SECRETARY RECEIVED AMBASSADOR BELOVSKI AT THE LATTER'S REQUEST ON MARCH 9 FOR A WIDE-RANGING EXCHANGE ON BILATERAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES. BELOVSKI CONVEYED FOREIGN SECRETARY MINIC'S INVITATION FOR THE SECRETARY TO VISIT YUGOSLAVIA WHICH WAS ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE. THIS TELEGRAM IS BASED ON AN UNCLEARED MEMCON AND IS SUBJECT TO REVISION. END SUMMARY.

2. POLITICAL CONSULTATION: CHARACTERIZING OUR RELATIONS AS SATISFACTORY AND ENTAILING MORE THAN NORMAL COOPERATION  
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IN MANY AREAS, BELOVSKI APPEALED FOR CONTINUATION OF A HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL DIALOGUE ESTABLISHED THROUGH THE VISITS OF TWO AMERICAN PRESIDENTS AND OF TITO TO THE US. HE DEPICTED THE UPCOMING VISIT BY EDVARD KARDELJ IN THAT LIGHT. THE SECRETARY ENDORSED THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUING THIS DIALOGUE AND EXPRESSED DELIGHT ABOUT THE PROSPECTIVE KARDELJ VISIT AND OTHERS BELOVSKI ENUMERATED.(SIROTKOVIC

AND A YUGOSLAV PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION). AT OTHER POINTS IN THE CONVERSATION BELOVSKI MADE A PITCH FOR US-YUGOSLAV POLITICAL CONSULTATION, IN INTERNATIONAL FORA AND ON CERTAIN SPECIFIC ISSUES SUCH AS THE PANAMA CANAL TALKS WHERE BELOVSKI SUGGESTED YUGOSLAVIA MIGHT BE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE SOMETHING WITHIN THE NONALIGNED CONTEXT.

3. EMIGRE ACTIVITY: BELOVSKI CHARACTERIZED THE ANTI-YUGOSLAV ACTIVITY OF THE SMALL NUMBER OF RADICAL EMIGRES AND THE FACT THAT A SERIES OF VIOLENT CRIMES HERE HAS GONE UNPUNISHED AS A BURDEN ON OUR RELATIONS. CITING THE UPCOMING HIJACKING TRIAL, HE PREDICTED THAT CONVICTIONS WOULD PRODUCE IN YUGOSLAVIA "ENORMOUS CONFIDENCE" IN THE US. THE SECRETARY ASSURED BELOVSKI ABOUT POLICE PROTECTION OF THE YUGOSLAV INSTALLATIONS IN NEW YORK AND AFFIRMED THAT JUSTICE WOULD BE DONE UNDER OUR LAW. BELOVSKI LATER IN THE TALK MADE A POINT OF DECLARING THAT YUGOSLAVIA IS INTERESTED ONLY IN CULTURAL AND "SPIRITUAL" RELATIONS WITH YUGOSLAV-AMERICANS, RELATIONS THAT WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR HERITAGE AND TO US-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS. BELOVSKI SAID HIS EMBASSY ENGAGES IN NO OTHER ACTIVITIES TOWARD THEM.

4. KRSKO: BELOVSKI STRESSED YUGOSLAVIA'S APPRECIATION OF US CONCERN ABOUT NONPROLIFERATION AND YUGOSLAVIA'S WILLINGNESS TO HELP. HE CAUTIONED THAT IN OUR DESIRE TO AVOID ABUSE OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS WE SHOULD NOT END IN DEPRIVING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OF ACCESS TO THEM FOR PEACEFUL USES. HE STRESSED THAT YUGOSLAVIA SHOULD NOT BE OBLIGED TO GO CONFIDENTIAL

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BEYOND THE SAFEGUARDS IT HAS ALREADY SUBSCRIBED TO BY INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT. THE SECRETARY INFORMED BELOVSKI OF OUR DECISION TO ACCEPT THE UNILATERAL STATEMENT FORMULA AND ASSURED BELOVSKI THERE IS NO CAUSE FOR FURTHER DELAY IF THE GOY CAN PRODUCE A SATISFACTORY STATEMENT (REF).

5. MILITARY RELATIONS: BELOVSKI NOTED THAT THE US-YUGOSLAV MILITARY RELATIONSHIP REPRESENTS A NEW DIMENSION AND SHOULD PROCEED ACCORDING TO OUR INTERESTS. REFERRING OB- LIQUELY TO THE TOW CONTROVERSY, HE CAUTIONED AGAINST UNDUE PRESS ATTENTION TO THE RELATIONSHIP.

6. DETENTE AND CSCE: IN A GENERAL DISCUSSION, BELOVSKI STRESSED THE THEMES OF COOPERATION RATHER THAN CONFRONTATION AND OF BROADENING DETENTE GEOGRAPHICALLY AND SUBSTANTIVELY. HE CAUTIONED AGAINST A "ONE-SIDED APPROACH" AT BELGRADE '77, SAYING THE FINAL ACT SHOULD BE TREATED IN ITS ENTIRETY AND EMPHASIZING A FORWARD-LOOKING APPROACH.

7. MIDDLE EAST: THE SECRETARY NOTED THAT, BESIDES ARAB-ISRAELI DIFFERENCES HE HAD FOUND DURING HIS TRIP DIFFER-

ENCES AMONG ARAB STATES ON THE APPROACH TO GENEVA. BE-SIDES THE QUESTION OF PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION, HE CITED A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SYRIA AND EGYPT OVER WHETHER THERE SHOULD BE A SINGLE ARAB DELEGATION OR SEPARATE ONES. HE EXPRESSED OPTIMISM, HOWEVER, AND STRESSED THAT THE US WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE, AS A MIDDLE MAN, TO BRING THE PARTIES TOGETHER.

8. CUBA: BELOVSKI ASKED IF US REMOVAL OF TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS WOULD BE RECIPROCATED, TO WHICH THE SECRETARY SAID HE HOPED SO. THE IMPORTANT THING, HE CONTINUED WAS TO TAKE THE INITIAL STEP, WHICH WE HAVE DONE. A NUMBER OF ISSUES DIVIDE US, AND THE PROBLEM WILL NOT BE SOLVED OVERNIGHT, BUT IT IS IMPORTANT TO BEGIN THE PROCESS. CONFIDENTIAL

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9. US-SOVIET RELATIONS: THE SECRETARY EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE WE CAN NEGOTIATE A NEW SALT AGREEMENT BEFORE THE CURRENT ONE EXPIRES. HE SAID THE PRESIDENT WANTS A PROMPT AGREEMENT SO WE CAN MOVE TO SALT III AND BIG REDUCTIONS. BY SETTING ASIDE CRUISE MISSILE QUESTION FOR MOMENT, THE PRESIDENT THINKS WE CAN ACHIEVE THIS, BUT IT IS UP TO THE SOVIETS TO DECIDE WHETHER THEY WANT AN EARLY AGREEMENT. THE SECRETARY NOTED THAT THE SOVIETS ARE CO-CHAIRMAN AT GENEVA AND HAVE IMPORTANT INTERESTS IN A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT. HE HAD ACCORDINGLY KEPT THEM INFORMED ABOUT HIS MIDDLE EAST TALKS.

10. PANAMA: THE SECRETARY SAID THE TALKS ARE GOING AS EXPECTED. WE ARE NOT GOING TO RUSH INTO AN AGREEMENT JUST TO HAVE ONE. IT MUST BE A FAIR AGREEMENT AND WE WILL NEGOTIATE TOWARD THAT END. BELOVSKI ASKED THAT WE KEEP YUGOSLAVIA INFORMED SINCE IT MAY BE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE.

11. NONALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM): BELOVSKI ASKED ABOUT THE US ATTITUDE TOWARD DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TOWARD THE NAM. HE ASKED IF YUGOSLAVIA CAN COUNT ON A MORE ACTIVE US APPROACH, SAYING A COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE WOULD IMPROVE THE NAM'S OWN ATTITUDE TOWARD THE US. THE SECRETARY REPLIED THAT WE ARE CONSIDERING SOME INITIATIVES THAT COULD BE RAISED AT THE CIEC MEETING IN MAY TO HELP MOVE THINGS FORWARD. HE AGREED THAT CONFRONTATION CAN ONLY HAMPER US ALL BUT CAUTIONED THAT THE US MUST LOOK TO ITS INTEREST CAREFULLY TO IDENTIFY POSSIBILITIES. WE SHOULD NOT PROMISE WHAT WE CANNOT DELIVER. THE SECRETARY SAID HE HAS ALWAYS SUPPORTED THE NAM IDEA AS LONG AS IT WAS NOT

CONFRONTATIONAL. POINTING TO YUGOSLAVIA'S DISLIKE OF  
SOVIET STATEMENTS SUPPORTING THE "ACTIVE, ANTI-IMPERIALIST  
POLICY" OF NAM, BELOVSKI SAID YUGOSLAVIA LOOKS FORWARD  
TO A POSITIVE STATEMENT FROM THE US THAT COULD LEAD TO

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IMPROVEMENT IN NAM ATTITUDES.

12. THE TONE OF THE SESSION WAS UPBEAT, AND BELOVSKI  
WAS OBVIOUSLY PLEASED.  
VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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